

Achieving Best-in-Class: Accountability Serious Injuries and Extended Shutdowns in FY 2003 and 2004

The serious injuries listed below are just a sampling of serious injuries reported in ORPS or CAIRS. The extended shutdowns were reported by the site managers.

FY 2003

Serious Injuries

- January 28, 2003, SLAC. Employee falls off ladder onto concrete floor. Head injuries requiring hospitalization.
- March 26, 2003, LBNL. Graduate student injures eyes on laser beam. Eye injury but the injury is not permanent.
- May 6, 2003, ORNL. Pipe fitter experiences second degree burns to ankle. Requires skin graft.
- June 1, 2003, BNL. Employee slips on slick floor. Admitted to hospital and undergoes surgery for fractured elbow.
- August 14, 2003, ORNL. Worker fractures foot on forklift while steadying the load. 47 days away from work.
- September 4, 2003, BNL. Worker injures hand on brass tubing on lathe. Treatment at hospital emergency room.
- September 9, 2003, BNL. Graduate student incurs laser eye injury. White spots, blurry vision, treated by ophthalmologist. Vision is improving.

Extended Shutdowns

- BNL: Lasers, 60 days.
- ORNL: HFIR, 63 days.
- PNNL: (1) Culture bottle overpressurization, 124 days.
(2) Chemical rupture in fume hood, 90 days. (These are equipment downtimes but there was no impact on research projects.)
- PPPL: NSTX equipment failure, 56 days.
- SLAC: Modulator PFN cabinet fire, 41 days. (Lost R&D time was much less.)

FY 2004

Serious Injuries

- October 29, 2003, ORNL. Research technician cuts hand on horizontal band saw. Significant laceration requires hospitalization and surgery.
- November 7, 2003, Fermilab. Pedestrian struck by delivery truck. Multiple contusions and abrasions and a fractured right shoulder and two right ribs, treated and released from the hospital.
- November 13, 2003, BNL. Mechanic cuts index finger on 55-gallon drum. Tendon damage.
- November 20, 2003, BNL. Pedestrian struck by vehicle in crosswalk. Neck sprain/strain and contusion to the left buttock and posterior thigh.
- January 6, 2004, PPPL. Employee trips and falls in boiler room. Fractured left elbow.
- January 15, 2004, BNL. Worker slips or twists ankle on grassy uneven surface while preparing for a cable pull. Broke ankle in several places, surgery, several days in hospital.

Extended Shutdowns

- Fermilab: NuMI electrical work, 5 days. (No impact on research program.)
- ORNL: HFIR inner shroud, defueling operations are currently suspended.